



Committee Participation

Due to staff turnover, and at times the lack of staff, the program has been less active in various committees this year. The program did however actively participate in the following committees:

Hawaii Technical Committee on
Polluted Runoff Control
Interagency Water Quality Action
Program Training Committee
Kailua Bay Advisory Council
Koolau Mountains and West Maui
Mountains Watershed
Partnerships
Malama Hawaii
Natural Resources Conservation
Service State Technical
Committee

With the program now functioning with five staff members, we hope to be able to attend more meetings and participate in more committees in the following fiscal year. We realize the importance of working with other organizations to ensure that we are fully aware of other projects going on throughout the state. In working towards a common goal with others, we will be more efficient and effective in protecting and improving the quality of Hawaii's water resources.

Hawaii Technical Committee on Polluted Runoff Control

This committee gives the program the opportunity to provide technical assistance and information regarding polluted runoff to the conservation districts. The last meeting was held in June 2001 in conjunction with the Hawaii Association of Conservation Districts (HACD) Annual Meeting. All program staff attended and were introduced to the districts. The program provided a brief update of ongoing 319(h) projects and the current Request for Proposals. Unified Watershed Assessment (UWA) activity and proposed activity in the five Category I Tier I watersheds were discussed. Audrey Shileikis of EPA Region 9 provided an EPA update, a brief description of the proposed FY 2002 Grant Guidance and EPA's perspective on priorities for nonpoint source pollution programs and the UWA. The DOH's proposed amendments to the Water Quality Standards were presented and districts were provided an opportunity to express their concerns and share their comments. A presentation was provided by the University of Hawaii on "Increasing Public Awareness of Pollution Risks Using Farm*A*Syst/Home*A*Syst", a CWA Section 319(h) project, now referred to as the Hawaii's Pollution Prevention Information (HAPPI) project.

Interagency Water Quality Action Program Training Committee

This committee met to plan and organize a Water Quality Training Conference. The conference was held in November 2000 at the University of Hawaii, Manoa campus. Speakers at the conference addressed issues surrounding the development of TMDLs and the Animal Feeding Operations/Confined Animal Feeding Operations (AFO/CAFO) federal guidelines. The Clean Water Branch Chief participates in this committee on behalf of the program. The next conference is planned for 2002.

Kailua Bay Advisory Council

Current program staff have not attended KBAC board meetings. The staff have met with the KBAC Director, Maile Bay, to discuss the need for a Ko'olaupoko WRAS and KBAC's intentions to develop their Master Plan to meet EPA WRAS requirements. The staff continues to provide information and technical support upon request.

Koolau Mountains Watershed Partnership and West Maui Mountains Watershed Partnership

PRC program staff attend monthly meetings and offer polluted runoff information as needed. The Koolau Mountains Watershed Partnership (KMWP) has drafted a management plan and intends to hire a coordinator in November 2001. The PRC program will have a poster board presentation at the upcoming Watershed Symposium sponsored by the KMWP.

Malama Hawaii

This group has really grown over the year and serves as a clearinghouse for environmental agencies and organizations to share information, coordinate their efforts and develop partnerships to work to "malama Hawaii", which means to care for and protect Hawaii. We attend meetings to share information regarding ongoing efforts to address polluted runoff throughout the state. Through our involvement in Malama Hawaii, many organizations are now aware of the outreach materials we have available upon request.

Natural Resources Conservation Service State Technical Committee

Representatives from State and Federal agencies meet quarterly to discuss specific Farm Bill programs and offer recommendations for project selection. Programs include the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), the Forestry Incentives Program (FIP), the Farmland Protection Program (FPP), the Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP), the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP). The committee also addresses the need for public information, outreach, and education. The program offers nonpoint source information related to committee discussions.